

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 18-21 are pending. Of those claims, claims 4-16 and 19-21 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.142(b). In this Amendment, claims 16 and 18, and the specification have been amended to correct minor errors. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter.

Claims 1-3 and 18 are now active in this application, of which claim 1 is independent.

Rejoinder

Upon the allowance of independent claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests rejoinder examination and allowance of claims 4-16 and 19-21 directed to the withdrawn species. Applicant believes claim 1 to be generic.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant notes that the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 11, 2007 was acknowledged, but a copy of the PTO-1449 form for that IDS, attached to the present Office Action, does not indicate that the German Office Action dated April 11, 2007 was considered. The copy of the German Office Action and its English translation were submitted together with the IDS dated June 11, 2007. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide an appropriately initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form indicating consideration of the German Office Action.

Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

The Examiner asserted that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "a common potential" recited in claim 18. In this Amendment, claim 18 has been amended to replace the limitation with --the predetermined potential--. Applicant, therefore, respectfully solicits withdrawal of the rejection of the claim.

Claims 1-3 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Yumoto et al.

In the statement of the rejection, the Examiner asserted that Yumoto et al. discloses a sample hold circuit identically corresponding to what is claimed. However, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection because Yumoto et al. does not identically disclose a sample hold circuit including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, the reference does not disclose, among other things, "a drive circuit having an input node connected to the other electrode of said second switching element and an output node connected to the other electrode of said first switching element, and providing a potential corresponding to a potential of said input node to the output node wherein a power supply voltage of said drive circuit is intermittently supplied," as recited in independent claim 1.

The Examiner purportedly identified voltage generating circuit 161 shown in Fig. 42 of Yumoto et al. as the claimed drive circuit. However, voltage generating circuit 161 does not have at least an output node connected to the other electrode of nMOS transistor 186 identified as the claimed first switching element. According to paragraph [0396] of Yumoto et al., node ND2 is the output node of voltage generating circuit 161. It is apparent from Fig. 42 that node ND2 is not connected to nMOS transistor 186, but electrode 162. Accordingly, Yumoto et al.

does not disclose, among other things, the claimed drive circuit having an output node connected to the other electrode of the first switching electrode, as required by claim 1.

In addition, the Examiner, referring paragraph [0131] of Yumoto et al., purportedly identified nMOS transistors 186 and 188 shown in Fig. 42 as the claimed first and second switching elements, respectively. However, paragraph [0131] of the Yumoto et al. referred to by the Examiner addresses nMOS transistors Q1 and Q2, not nMOS transistors 186 and 188. Applicant notes that nMOS transistors Q1 and Q2 are part of a voltage generating circuit shown in Fig. 4A, and are different from nMOS transistors 186 and 188. Accordingly, Yumoto et al. does not disclose the claimed first and second switching elements.

Based on the foregoing, Yumoto et al. does not identically disclose a sample hold circuit including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Dependent claims 2, 3, and 18 are also patentably distinguishable over Yumoto et al. at least because these claims respectively include all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Applicant, therefore, respectfully solicits withdrawal of the rejection of the claims, and favorable consideration thereof.

Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

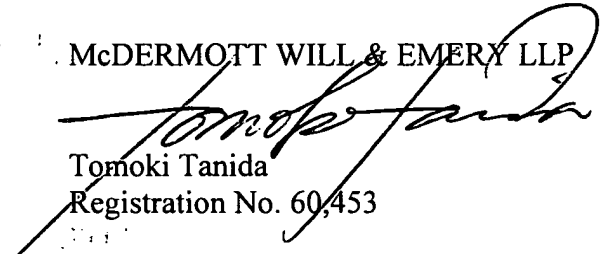
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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